

his characteristics) in regard to certain pledges he had entered into while leader of the Opposition. The Premier's pledges were unequivocal. He denounced as "A GREAT BREACH OF A SOLEMN PUBLIC TRUST" the act which Mr. Fowler boastfully confesses. When the Premier brings to the House an earnest of his declared intention to save the King's Service from the spoiler and the fowler, he hears a denunciation from one of his professed followers of an act that is probably more highly ethical than any he has undertaken since he assumed power. Read Sir Robert's platform, drawn up in Halifax in 1907:—

Civil Service Reform.

A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an Independent Commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. Of necessity some appointments must be left to the executive. But for the rest, I prefer a competitive system of appointment to the present partisan system. Three-fourths of the time of members supporting a Government is occupied with matters of patronage. Party patronage and party service have more weight than character or capacity. The public service is cumbered with useless officials. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.

Abuse of Patronage.

A Government holds the power of patronage for the benefit of the public, and it is entitled to fill public offices solely in the public interest. The duties of those officials are for the public benefit, and are fixed by the laws of the country; their salaries are paid out of the people's money. To use the power of filling such positions as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. **A PRIVATE TRUSTEE SO DISHONOURING HIS OFFICE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PUNISHMENT BY THE CRIMINAL LAW**, but the one punishment which can be meted out for such abuse of a public trust is dismissal by the electorate.

Having read this declaration of faith and loyalty to the King and his Service, let the reader turn again to Mr. Fowler's loathsome creed of sacrilege and prostitution.

There is no diminution of disloyalty in respect to the Minister of Finance. Sincerity in a politician, like virtue in a woman, is a thing that men still admire. The opinion is gaining ground that Mr. White has that fine quality for a politician, a sincere purpose; desiring, not so much to DO things, as to do the right thing, as Aristotle said, in the right way and from